



# Mapping the Food Environment to Inform Multi-Dimensional Intervention Strategies to Enhance Community Health and Well-Being

## Purpose

The objectives of this project were to develop an understanding of the food environment in this area, compare food environments of diverse populations living in different neighborhoods, and provide community partners and policy makers with reliable data pertaining to food security, food access, food patterns and behaviors, health conditions, and neighborhood characteristics. We seek to integrate localized primary data into mapping tools to better spatial, temporal, cultural, economic, personal, social, and service delivery domains.

## Impact

25 OSU student volunteers and 2 community members administered 200 in-person surveys at 15 community sites (with an additional 700 online). 10 students participated in additional data entry, food store data collection, and data analysis.

Descriptive infographics were created for 10 Columbus-area zip codes describing disparities in food security, food access, and health. These are being distributed through the extensive community network for use in grant preparation, baseline for program development, and to inform policy makers.

The Food Mapping Team has published four papers regarding community-university engagement and research processes, community-based food strategies to address food security in households with children, and a comprehensive state of the food mapping literature.

## How to get Involved:

- Invest in our community partners working to implement creative community-based interventions by supporting our partners with a financial contribution to further their impressive work and improve community food security!
- Support funding our project's website development.
- Support funding graduate student opportunities for continued mapping, analysis, and future research efforts.

## To get involved, contact:

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## Ohio State Colleges/Units Involved

College of Social Work  
 Glenn College of Public Affairs  
 Kirwan Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnicity  
 College of Arts and Sciences-Geography  
 College of Medicine  
 -Medical Dietetics, Health Sciences  
 College of Engineering/Knowlton School of Architecture (City and Regional Planning)  
 Center for Urban and Regional Analysis  
 College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences  
 Horticulture and Crop Science  
 Agroecosystems Management Project  
 OARDC  
 OSU Extension

## Community Partners Involved

Columbus Public Health  
 Local Matters  
 Fresh Foods Here Healthy Corner Store Initiative  
 Franklinton Gardens  
 Mid-Ohio Foodbank



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